

To: Chang, Lisa[Chang.Lisa@epa.gov]
From: Murchie, Peter
Sent: Tue 3/29/2016 2:50:27 PM
Subject: RE: Cong. McMorris Rodgers - DRAFT RESPONSE PLS REVIEW

Thank you Lisa

Peter

From: Chang, Lisa
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 7:44 PM
To: Schuster, Cindy <Schuster.Cindy@epa.gov>; Murchie, Peter <Murchie.Peter@epa.gov>
Cc: Opalski, Dan <Opalski.Dan@epa.gov>; Holsman, Marianne <Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov>; Dunbar, Bill <dunbar.bill@epa.gov>; Edmondson, Lucy <Edmondson.Lucy@epa.gov>; Wright, Garth <wright.garth@epa.gov>; VanHaagen, Paula <vanhaagen.paula@epa.gov>; Downs, Yvette <Downs.Yvette@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Cong. McMorris Rodgers - DRAFT RESPONSE PLS REVIEW
Importance: High

DRAFT DELIBERATIVE

All – here is basic information relevant to Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers’ questions below regarding the subaward to the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community made under our Tribal LO award to NWIFC. I organized the response according to the topics in her questions.

Please let me know what additional information would be helpful in response to this inquiry.

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS

1. Funding that went to set up the website.

● The website was established by the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community (SITC) under a subaward for this project made under an EPA assistance agreement to the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NWIFC).

- The website was one element of SITC's five-year "Non-Point Pollution Public Information and Education Initiative" subaward project. The total budget for the 5 year project is \$655,529. Other elements of the project include project planning, management, local coordination and partnering; conducting research regarding public attitudes and support relating to water and habitat quality; measuring effectiveness of educational efforts; conducting focus groups to refine understanding of general public's knowledge of these issues; and conducting public education and outreach based on the previous elements.

- Based on initial subaward proposals that EPA reviewed, on the order of 25% of the total budget was dedicated to website development. However, this is a crude estimate based upon initial proposals. EPA would have to ask the prime award recipient, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NWIFC), for a final detailed budget breakdown. [LISA'S NOTE – I WOULD DEFINITELY NEED MORE INFORMATION FROM NWIFC AS TO THE BREAKDOWN ON WHAT WAS SPENT ON THE WEBSITE]

2. Paperwork setting up the grant.

- The EPA assistance agreement to NWIFC under which this subaward was funded was awarded by EPA to NWIFC in 2010. The award document, PA-00J32201, is attached ("PA-00J32201-0.pdf").

- The specific final subaward documentation between NWIFC and subaward recipients establishing the subaward is held by NWIFC and the subaward recipient.

3. Guidelines on how the money could be spent.

- EPA established programmatic goals and parameters (including eligible activities for subawardees) for the Tribal Lead Organization in the 2010 Request for Proposals (RFP) issued for this program (attached: "RFP PS Tribal Projects to Implement AA amended 9-13-10.pdf"). NWIFC submitted an application to this RFP, and was selected as the award recipient through a competitive process.

- NWIFC's approved assistance agreement work plan and budget (attached: "NWIFC_LO_Application.pdf"), as well as the programmatic and administrative terms and conditions of the award, further govern how NWIFC may expend funds. [INTERNAL NOTE – THERE HAVE BEEN ABOUT 5 AMENDMENTS TO THE AWARD FOR VARIOUS REASONS, SUCH AS TO AMEND PROJECT PERIODS, TO ADD INCREMENTAL FUNDING, TO MODIFY T&C – SHOULD I GET INTO THAT HERE? I DON'T THINK THEY ARE TOO GERMANE TO THIS INQUIRY AND IT WOULD MAKE THIS RESPONSE VERY LENGTHY IF WE INCLUDED ALL THAT]

- NWIFC in turn establishes guidelines for subaward applicants in Requests for Proposals it issues each year (example attached: “FY11 RFP Tribal Projects FINAL.doc”)
- For all final subawards, the final subaward work plan and budget, in addition to subaward terms and conditions (including pass-through terms and conditions in the parent award), govern how each subawardee may expend funds.

From: Schuster, Cindy

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 12:28 PM

To: Murchie, Peter <Murchie.Peter@epa.gov>; Chang, Lisa <Chang.Lisa@epa.gov>

Cc: Opalski, Dan <Opalski.Dan@epa.gov>; Holsman, Marianne <Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov>; Schuster, Cindy <Schuster.Cindy@epa.gov>

Subject: Inquiry from office of Cong. McMorris Rodgers

Peter and Lisa,

Cong. McMorris Rodgers’ D.C. office is asking for an “expedited” response for information about the “whatsupstream” website. They are interested in \$ that went to setting up the website, paperwork setting up the grant, and guidelines on how the money could be spent. Please let me know if there is written information that we can share, or if it would be better to offer a call.

Cindy, 3-1815